



Express Mail Label No. EV 034970021 US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): P. Bonutti and J. Hawkins

Attorney Docket No: 780-A02-003-2

Application No.: 09/992,211

Group Art Unit: 3731

Filed: November 16, 2001

Examiner: M. Thaler

For: EXPANDABLE CANNULA

#11  
Amended  
(N.E.)  
J. Boyce  
10/10/02

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D. C. 20231  
BOX AF

RECEIVED  
OCT 10 2002  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed August 7, 2002, please enter the following amendments and remarks into the file of the above-entitled application.

In the Claims

Please cancel claim 76.

Please amend the identified claims to read as follows. A marked-up copy of these claims showing additions and deletions is attached hereto.

57. (Twice Amended) An expandable cannula which is movable into a patient's body tissue, said cannula comprising a tubular sheath having a passage which extends between axially opposite end portions of said sheath, said sheath being resiliently expandable from a contracted condition in which the passage through said sheath has a relatively small cross sectional size in a plane perpendicular to a longitudinal central axis of said sheath to an expanded condition in which the passage through said sheath has a relatively large cross sectional size in a plane perpendicular to the longitudinal central axis of said sheath, said sheath having an oval

57  
D



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): P. Bonutti and J. Hawkins

Attorney Docket No: 780-A02-003-2

Application No.: 09/992,211

Group Art Unit: 3731

Filed: November 16, 2001

Examiner: M. Thaler

For: EXPANDABLE CANNULA

**CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

**PATENTS**

EXPRESS "Express Mail" Mailing Label number EV 034970021 US

Date of Deposit October 7, 2002

I hereby certify that the attached paper(s) or fee(s) is/are being deposited with the United States Postal Services "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR §1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to Box AF, Commissioner for Patents, USPTO, Washington, D.C. 20231.

(Signature of person mailing paper or fee)

PAUL D. BIANCO

(Typed or printed name of person mailing paper or fee)

RECEIVED  
OCT 10 2002  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700



10-02-02

AP/3731

PTO/SB/21 (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

<b>TRANSMITTAL FORM</b> (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)	<b>Application Number</b>	09/992,211	
	<b>Filing Date</b>	11/16/2001	
	<b>First Named Inventor</b>	P. Bonutti	
	<b>Group Art Unit</b>	3731	
	<b>Examiner Name</b>	M. Thaler	
<b>Total Number of Pages in This Submission</b>	11	<b>Attorney Docket Number</b>	780-A02-003-2

<b>ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form	<input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers (for an Application)	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment / Reply	<input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> After Final	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition	<input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information
<input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application	<input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter
<input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below):
<input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer	Postcard, Certificate of Express Mail
<input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement	<input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund	
<input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application	<b>Remarks</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53		

RECEIVED

OCT 10 2002

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

<b>SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT</b>	
<b>Firm or Individual name</b>	Paul D. Bianco Reg. No. 43,500
<b>Signature</b>	
<b>Date</b>	10/07/2002

<b>CERTIFICATE OF MAILING</b>			
Express Mail Label No. EV 034970021 US			
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as <u>express</u> mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231 on this date: <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">October 7, 2002</span>			
<b>Typed or printed name</b>	Paul D. Bianco		
<b>Signature</b>		<b>Date</b>	10/07/2002

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.